from the World Bank Loan. i.e. the underground and/or open cast mines and the nature of technologies proposed to be adopted;

(c) the type/grade of coal and the annual quantum thereof likely to be mined out of the assisted mining projects; and

(d) the time frame within which the projects are to be made operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Both opencast and underground projects have been identified for World Bank assistance. In the opencast mines mechanised opencast mining technology using shovel. dumpers and draglines is proposed. In the underground mines also mechanised loading methods using side discharge loaders is proposed.

(c) and (d) Coals of grades 'B' to 'F' are proposed to be produced. Ultimate coal production from the identified mining projects is estimated at 97.47 million tonnes per annum which includes production from new/expansion projects as well as existing mines where replacement equipment are proposed. The time frame when these projects will be fully operational will be known at the time when the loan is approved.

Closed coal mines under Coal India Limited.

708. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the closed coal mines of Coal India Limited, subsidiary-wise, after nationalisation;

(b) what is the quantity of coal reserves, cost thereof; mineable coal reserves cost thereof colliery-wise;

(c) the specific reasons of closure against each mine;

(d) whether Government have any plan to reopen these mines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (f) According to Coal India Ltd. (CIL) the number of mines closed since nationalisation is 94. The company-wise details of the closed mines are given below:—

Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	52
Bharat Coking Coals Ltd.	10
Central Coalfields Ltd.	3
Western Coalfields Ltd.	14
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd	15
TOTAL:	94

Most of the mines are closed/work temporarily suspended, due to exhaustion of coal reserves in the working seam, exhaustion of quarriable reserves, non-viability/uneconomic conditions , difficult geo-mining conditions or flooding or fire leading to unsafe conditions. Generally speaking there would be no mineable reserves in closed mines. However, in a few underground mines closed due to fire, flooding etc. the mineable reserves range from 0.40 million tonnes to a maximum of 12 million tonnes the present market value of which may range from about Rs. 16 crores to Rs. 480 crores. Wherever possible, steps such as pumping out water from flooded mines and quenching of the fire in Underground mines affected by fire are being taken before such mines could be considered for reopening.